

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDGING

General

These Judging Details have been prepared for the use of Judges and contain information applicable to all Judges, which should be read in conjunction with the whole of the Policies & Operations Manual (Technical). It is recommended that Coaches and Chaperones also be fully conversant with these requirements to assist in achieving the correct performance. Teams and Leaders will be adjudicated on as set out in the Competitive Grade Requirements for each Grade.

Association Chief Judge

The Association Chief Judge will be elected by the Association's Annual Meeting (or appointed by the Association Committee in the case of a vacancy), and shall act in accordance with the Job Profile for the position, ensuring all members of the Panel of Judges are able to perform their duties in a safe and healthy environment, and undertake their duties in accordance with the Policies and Rules of Participation of Marching New Zealand.

Judges

A Judge is defined as a person appropriately qualified to adjudicate correctly on the performance of competing Teams and is appointed to a Panel of Judges by the Association Committee, on the recommendation of the Association Chief Judge.

A group of personnel, who will form the basis of each Panel of Judges to adjudicate at Championships and Competitions, will be gathered each season by the elected Association Chief Judge.

Requirements of a Judge

Judges will present themselves in a neat and tidy manner, complying with uniform requirements as detailed under the heading Judges Uniforms and maintain an awareness of the standard of behaviour and decorum expected of Judges when adjudicating at all levels.

Each Judge will act in close co-operation with the Association Chief Judge, and it will be the responsibility of each Judge to check the following:

- That their allocated judging position on the competition area is at the correct measurement.
- That they are adequately prepared for all weather conditions
- That all elements in relation to their judging position are acceptable (e.g. Quickstep guides) and that they check the area of their judging location for any elements of risk or hazard.
- That they take up their correct position for judging at the time stipulated on the Working Timetable for each event.
- That they are aware of any dispensations or rulings directed from the Chief Judge at each contest. All judges shall be conversant with the requirements of the Technical Drills details pertaining to the section to which they have been appointed and be familiar with all the Marching New Zealand Policies and Rules of Participation applicable to Judging.
- Judges will comply implicitly with the directives and rules promulgated through the Policies and Operations Manual (Technical) and Memos received from the Director of Judging.

Teams will be adjudicated upon in an objective and unbiased manner according to the specified judging system, and in accordance with the criteria stipulated.

Judges will not attend Team training sessions for judging training purposes unless prior arrangement is made with the Association Chief Judge.

Coaches may request, through the Association Chief Judge, a Judge to attend a training session, but only for clarification purposes, and not assist in coaching a Team.

A Judge may be a registered Coach of a Team. Eligibility to judge at local competitions is detailed in Marching New Zealand Rule of Participation RAC8.

Judges Training

Immediately upon election to office, the Association Chief Judge will inform the Director of Judging of their election and confirm contact details. It is then required that they establish a list of Judges available in the area who wish to be included in the Panel of Judges and establish a timetable which will enable a regular training/information programme to be undertaken. Contents of the training programme should include the following:

- Upon receipt of the Drills, Routines and Judging Details, individual Judges should familiarise themselves with the requirements pertaining to their sections.
- A video of drill requirements will be available for purchase, to ensure that both Judges and Coaches have a unified “picture of correctness”. Association Chief Judges should ensure that a copy of this video is available specifically for the Judging Panel.
- A Judges Training Kit containing DVD and a USB of Quickstep/Compliments/Movements/Display phases taken from each judging position is available from Association Chief Judges for training purposes.
- Full Panel meetings, to feature individual section discussion. It is important that all Judges are aware of what goes on in other sections, as they are all connected in some way. A broader knowledge gives better understanding.
- Practical sessions with Teams, for familiarisation with score sheets.
- Communication training:
 - How to deal with Judges/Coaches interviews in a positive and informative way.
 - How to deal with an “irate” Coach.
 - General communication skills when dealing with people at all levels.
- Set questions (no more than three) sent in advance to Judges, to be answered verbally when attending the next Judges meeting. This helps to build confidence in communicating verbally.
- Regular combined Coaches/Judges meetings.
- Training Plan (as set by the Director of Judging in conjunction with the Group Advisor of that position).
- Six essential items for a judge:
 - ✓ Score sheets
 - ✓ Red Pens
 - ✓ Pencils
 - ✓ Plastic Bag
 - ✓ Wet Weather Gear
 - ✓ Black or White sun hat or visor

It is vital that both prior to the commencement of a season, the Association Chief Judge and the relevant Group Advisor maintains a dialogue with each Judge. The Chief Judge will keep a watching brief on the practical judging of each member of their panel and will at regular intervals send copies of score sheets through to the relevant Group Advisor for assessment/advice. It should also be realised that individuals will have a different rate of learning, competency and experience therefore it should not be expected that all Judges will be achieving at the same level.

In the situation of any complaints being made about a Judge, the Association Chief Judge will discuss the matter fully with the Director of Judging, prior to any action being taken.

Commencing/Ceasing Judging

Tech A – Judging will commence on the completion of the music command “By The Centre Quick March” and cease at the completion of the **Caliper Check (after the inspection)**

Tech B – Judging during each movement will commence after the completion of the whistle signal and cease on the completion of the step out pace from each movement. Judging will cease at the completion of the final halt.

Tech C – Judging during each movement will commence after the completion of the whistle signal and cease on the completion of the step out pace from each. Judging will cease at the completion of the final halt.

Tech D – Judging for the “March to Disc” straight marching requirements will commence on the completion of the Quickstep phase (after the step out pace) and on each occasion after the step out pace has been taken by each member from a movement.

Judging for the “During Movement” requirement will commence after the completion of the whistle signal and cease on the completion of the step out pace from each movement.

Judging will cease at the completion of the final halt.

Tech E – Judging for the “March to Disc” straight marching requirements will commence on the completion of the Quickstep phase (after the step out pace) and on each occasion after the step out pace has been taken by each member from a movement.

Judging will cease at the completion of the whistle signal for the final movement.

Compliance Judge

Q/C/M – Recording incorrect uniform (referred to Chief Judge to apply RAC11.1), uniform presentation, whistles, discs and finish, and any other compliance requirements delegated accordingly.

Judging will commence on the completion of the music command “By The Centre Quick March”. Judging will cease with the arrival of the correct foot in the centre of the circle.

Score Sheets

In marking Score sheets, Judges will endeavour to remain relaxed and adjudicate each performance on as broad a basis and approach as possible, according to the drills and requirements relating to each grade, and without any outside or undue influence. Any errors are to be crossed out neatly and initialled by the Judge concerned. The following criteria are to be followed:

Trainee Judges can use “progression” sheets as established by the Director of Judging and Group Advisor (i.e. Training Plan), which enables specific learning stages.

Judging sheets will be marked neatly with a red pen only.

The Team Name and Draw Number will be printed exactly as detailed in the programme or working timetable. The judge will print their name under the line where their signature will eventually appear once the sheet has been completed.

Any dispensations approved by the Chief Judge will be recorded on the top right-hand corner of the score sheet.

When a re-march is approved, Judges must mark the score sheet near the Team name with the wording “RE-MARCH”.

When it is programmed for Teams to march twice in one day, Score sheets are to be marked with either “1st March” or “2nd March”, as applicable.

Marking Score Sheets (Technical Judges)

RECOGNISE (are you seeing the perfect picture of the drill or movement performed)

ANALYSE (If not, what is wrong with the drill or movement performed)

It is important for a judge to know what the perfect picture is. When assessing a Team’s performance of each movement/phase, a judge is viewing the effort through a “mental template” i.e. visualisation of the perfect picture. The perfect picture is obtained through a variety of ways such as:

- Proficient knowledge of Section 2 of the Policy and Operations Manual (Technical)
- Correct illustrations
- Correct photographs or video clips
- Correct demonstrations
- Correct general discussion

During the execution of the performance by a Team, Judges will remain relaxed and fully observe the criteria pertaining to their individual judging positions. During this time the judge would go through the “Recognise” and “Analyse” phase of their adjudication.

For Technical A, B, C, D and E Judges, the specific number of incorrect faults observed will be placed in the relevant heading or word prompt for each movement/phase when faults are observed.

The Compliance Judge will circle the appropriate deduction fault as seen.

Judges will mark deductions, movement by movement, by recognising the incorrectness of the drill being performed.

It is encouraged that judges complete the ‘areas of improvement’ section on the back of the sheet.

Every deduction on the sheet can be expressed in words. There are no scores given for subjective or unarticulated criteria. In each case, THE VALUE of a deduction represents something that is OBSERVABLE.

Marking Score Sheets (Display Judges)

Display Judges will deduct points under each heading (excluding Creativity & Complexity of Content and Presentation) using a red marker to indicate incorrect timing or positions as well as any error observed.

Formations - the team will be judged for the projection of the variety of formations used. A red mark will be used to indicate each completed formation.

Creativity & Complexity of Content – the Judge will award using a red marker to indicate creativity interest, highlights and connections observed.

Presentation - The judge will evaluate the overall performance and use a red marker to circle the number that corresponds to the observed level of the presentation.

It is encouraged that judges complete the ‘areas of improvement’ section on the back of the sheet.

Completion of Score Sheets

After completing all appropriate boxes, Judges will thoroughly check their score sheet to ensure that it is complete prior to being dispatched to the Recording Room.

The deductions entered by each Judge will be added together to show the overall total for each Judging position.

The judge’s sheet should be signed (with the judge’s name printed under the signature) and dispatched to the Recording Room.

Incomplete Execution/Non-Compliance

If a Team does not comply with the Competitive Requirements as stipulated in the Policy and Operations Manual (Technical) for that Grade, then an RAC11.1 penalty may be applied – (maximum points for an RAC11.1 penalty will be 25 points).

If Judges have recognised a non-compliance situation, they will continue to judge the Team’s performance, complete the score sheets as required, and notify the Chief Judge that a RAC11.1 should be applied. The Chief Judge will confirm the reasons for the RAC11.1 and ensure this is brought to the attention of the Recorders. An appropriate notification explaining reasons for the RAC11.1 will be completed by the Chief Judge and attached to the score sheets for that Team.

Open Free Choice Grade

No judging is required for this Grade; however, Comment Sheets may be requested by the Team Coach. This will be advised to Judges prior to commencement of the contest by the Chief Judge.

Introductory Grade

This grade will have simplified sheets.

False Starts

The procedures for false starts are detailed in Section 1 of the Policies & Operations Manual (Technical).

Re-March

The procedures for a re-march are detailed in Section 1 of the Policies & Operations Manual (Technical).

Music

Should the music cease playing during a Team's Technical Drill or Display, Judges will cease judging and await the instructions of the Chief Judge of the day.

Judge/Coach Interviews

Interviews may be held after local competitions for clarification only and will be coordinated by the Association Chief Judge or Chief Judge of the Day.

Judges' Uniforms

The following are the official Judges' uniform requirements and optional extras:

Male Official Uniform: (Association Championships & Competitions, Island Championships)

- Black & White Tracksuit Jacket ¹
- Black & White Polo Shirt ¹
- Official short sleeved shirt ¹
- Black socks, black shoes
- Black tailored trousers

Female Official Uniform: (Association Championships & Competitions, Island Championships)

- Black & White Tracksuit Jacket ¹
- Black & White Polo Shirt ¹
- Official Shirt/Blouse ¹
- Black Tailored Trousers OR
- Black Tailored Skirt

Male and Female Uniform (New Zealand Championships):

- Black Tailored Trousers or Skirt
- Official Shirt/Blouse ¹
- Black shoes, socks, pantyhose (if wearing a skirt)
- Official NZ Championships Jacket/Blazer ²

Optional Extras:

- Black sleeveless vest with logo – Island Championships, Association Championships & Competitions ¹
- Plain white skivvy or long-sleeved top – under jacket only - New Zealand and Island Championships, Association Championships and Competitions
- Black Jacket (Suit type or zip up smart casual) – Island Championships, Association Championships and Competitions
- Black tracksuit pants – Association Competitions only ¹
- Black shorts/three quarter length trousers – Association Competitions only
- Hat/visor (all events)
- Wet weather gear (all events)
- Sports shoes – Association Competitions only

Notes:

1. Available for purchase from the Supplier
2. Provided by Marching NZ

At all times, when adjudicating, Judges will wear the Judge's badge that depicts their highest grading.

An order form for uniform items available from the Supplier can be obtained from the Association Chief Judge or the Director of Judging. Orders will be made directly with the Supplier and not through the Director of Judging's office.

Selection Policy for New Zealand/Island Championship Panels

In pursuing its main object to promote, encourage, administer and control the Sport of Marching, Marching New Zealand aims to ensure that Teams' performances at New Zealand/Island Championships are adjudicated upon by a competent panel of Judges.

Judges who are registered, currently adjudicating at their own Association contests, and who are qualified by the relevant accreditation will be eligible for selection for New Zealand/Island Championships.

All registered judges who hold a "National" qualification and are nominated by their Association Chief Judge will be considered for New Zealand Championship Panel selection. All registered judges who hold a "Regional" or "National" qualification and are nominated by their Association Chief Judge will be considered for Island Championship Panel selection.

The Director of Judging will, at the commencement of each season, advise Association Chief Judges of the procedure for Judges to indicate their availability.

Qualification levels are as follows:

- National - Eligible to adjudicate at New Zealand Championships in any Grade.
- Regional - Eligible to adjudicate at Island Championships in any Grade
- Qualified - Eligible to adjudicate at Association Championships and Competitions in any Grade.

New Zealand and Island panel selections will be made by the Director of Judging.

Notwithstanding the above, the Board, after consulting the Technical Working Party, may make a variation if satisfied that departure is in the best interests of the sport.

Process – Guidelines

PRINCIPLES

Process-Guidelines to apply whenever the Director of Judging is required by a MNZ Rule of Participation (RAC2-8) to select any of the above Judging Panels.

"How and Who to Select" will be the responsibility of the Director of Judging. Other members of the Technical Working Party are to be given an opportunity for input on draft selections before recommendations are presented to the Board for approval.

The Process-Guidelines will facilitate a seamless and timely relationship between the Director of Judging, other members of the Technical Working Party and the Board – latter to provide final approval.

Where the MNZ Board is required by a MNZ Rule of Participation (A20.1-b) to meet the travel and accommodation expenses of officiating Judges every effort must be made to keep costs to a manageable level and within the Budget approved by the Board prior to the previous Annual Meeting.

The Director of Judging, when submitting recommended Panels for Board approval, subsequent to inviting and obtaining input from the other members of the Technical

Working Party, to attach supporting documentation in justification of the individual recommendations.

An invitation is to be extended to those Judges who were unsuccessful in their bid for appointment to communicate through their Association Chief Judge to the Director of Judging seeking details as to their non-selection to a panel.

ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Requirements for selection:

- Nationally qualified and regionally qualified judges, recognised in the latter part of the previous season for demonstrating a good consistent standard of judging, nationally and locally. This gives the opportunity for regionally qualified judges and national judges to gain the experience at a higher level if they have proven themselves to be competent at a local level. Practical experience at this level is also important for our more experienced national judges, they also, are required to keep their practical skills up to a high level: to maintain their levels of competency by experience.
- All judges in consideration, will need to have shown willingness to gain theoretical experience: upskilling by way of attending local and national training sessions and workshops. Extenuating circumstances need to be considered if a judge has been unable to attend these sessions.
- All judges considered need to have shown a good standard of dress (uniform) and exemplary conduct in past season.
- The Director of Judging will seek information/support from the judge's Association Chief Judge and/or Group Advisor where necessary.
- Effort be made to consider and keep costs to a manageable level (travel and accommodation will be a charge on Associations in the respective Island).
- Where possible appointees from within the Island be appointed, although it could be more economically viable for Wellington Judges to be considered for the South Island event when held in Nelson or Marlborough and vice-versa. Up to 3 judges from outside the Island may be appointed to the panel. In recognition of an Island event having a prestigious place in the marching calendar, a maximum of 1 Technical and 1 Display judge be appointed from the regionally qualified group. In all these cases, the appropriate justifications submitted by the Director of Judging will refer specifically to the "why". Not only must cost be justified, but selections must recognise the broader need to provide pathways for aspirational judges without sacrificing overall "quality".
- A panel of eight judges will be required to adjudicate at the Island event.

Timeline:

Late August

Director of Judging to invite Association Chief Judges to submit availability of members of their Judging panels, including recommendations and justifying comments.

Early September

Association Chief Judges to submit recommendations (as above) to Director of Judging. If this timeline is not able to be met (e.g. annual leave), the incumbent must make appropriate arrangements with the Director of Judging to ensure recommendations are forthcoming.

Mid-October

Draft Island Championship judging panels to be sent by Director of Judging to Technical Manager and Director of Coaching, for their consideration and input. Once satisfied, the Technical Manager will send the draft panels to the EO requesting them to be forwarded to the Judging Appointments Committee.

Late October

After receiving confirmation from the Appointments Committee, the Technical Manager will communicate to the Director of Judging who will advise appointees directly, and request confirmation of acceptance (within one week). Recipients of this appointment must treat this information with utmost confidentiality until the Panels are released by the Technical Manager.

The Technical Manager will include the confirmed Island Judging Panels in her report to the Board meeting scheduled for November.

Upon receipt of advice from the Director of Judging of appointee acceptance the Technical Manager shall release the Panels and their judging positions to the Association Secretaries, Chief Judges, Coaching Coordinators, MNZ Board and EO, and to the Director of Coaching and Director of Judging.

October

Travel arrangements made by the Director of Judging for those requiring air travel as soon as possible to take advantage of less costly airfares. Accommodation booked.

NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Requirements for selection:

Nationally qualified judges recognised for their competency, consistency and efficiency in judging, as measured by the Association Chief Judge, Group Advisor and Director of Judging.

All judges in consideration need to have shown willingness to gain theoretical and practical experience: upskilling by way of attending local and national training sessions and workshops. Extenuating circumstances can be considered, if not attended.

Adequate recent adjudication practice necessary, regardless of “years” of experience.

Current skills given the utmost consideration.

Copies of judge’s sheets from 2 competitions in the current season, be forwarded to Director of Judging if judge wishing to be considered for selection.

Consideration given to the workload and judge’s proven ability to cope.

Support from the Judge’s Association Chief Judge and/or Group Advisor to be sought by Director of Judging where necessary, to enable appropriate candidates to be considered.

Effort made to consider costs. Whilst the selection will be from among the “best available” judges, location should be only a factor where more than one judge of equal or almost equal ability is available.

All judges considered need to have shown exemplary conduct in past season. They need to have also shown a good standard of presentation.

Timeline:

Early November

Director of Judging to invite Association Chief Judges to submit availability of members of their judging panel, including recommendations and justifying comments.

Mid November

Association Chief Judges to have submitted copies of 2 sets of judging sheets for prospective appointees (can be from same day) to Director of Judging. If said judge is appointed to an Island Championship to be held in December, these sheets can be considered as 1 set. Note: Association Chief Judges who do not submit sheets from a Judge to the Director of Judging would unlikely be eligible to have that panel member considered for selection.

Late November

Draft NZ Championship judging panels to be sent by Director of Judging to the Technical Manager and Director of Coaching, for review and input.

Early December (first two weeks)

Director of Judging to review performances of selected judges at Island Championships and other local events. If any change(s) is required to the original draft, discuss such changes with the Technical Manager and Director of Coaching before the Technical Manager submits the final draft Panel to the EO for sending on to the Judging Appointments Committee for approval.

Mid December (third week)

Judging Appointment Committee to advise EO of approval or otherwise of submitted Panel. EO to advise the Technical Manager of final approval.

Mid December

Upon receipt of advice from the EO the Technical Manager to advise Director of Judging when the Board's final approval is given. Director of Judging to then advise appointees directly, and request confirmation of acceptance (within one week). Recipients of this appointment must treat this information with utmost confidentiality until the Panels are released by the Technical Manager.

Mid to 23rd December

Upon receipt of advice from the Director of Judging of appointee acceptance the Technical Manager shall release the Panel (names and judging positions (not grades) to Association Secretaries, Chief Judges, Coaching Co-ordinators, MNZ Board and EO and to the Director of Coaching and Director of Judging.

Director of Judging to make travel arrangements for those requiring air travel as soon as possible to take advantage of less costly airfares and to ensure that all panel members attend any official opening. Accommodation booked.

Note: The Technical Manager will circulate the allocated grades for appointees between 01 February and 01 March to Association Secretaries, Coaching Coordinators, Chief Judges, the MNZ Board, the EO, the Director of Coaching, and the Director of Judging.

For New Zealand Championships, appointed Judges are to report their arrival to the Director of Judging, the day prior to the event, who will advise them of the time and location of the Judges Meeting, at which attendance is COMPULSORY.

Judges appointed to New Zealand Championships MUST NOT attend training sessions of Teams entering these events, until after the appropriate event has concluded.

Measurements for Judging Positions

Measurements for judging positions are as detailed in the respective Judging Criteria for each Judging Position.

Judging Accreditation

Judging accreditation, as required by Marching New Zealand Rule of Participation A11, will be undertaken as follows:

Trainee Judges

Personnel who have acknowledged an interest in learning to judge will be known as "Trainee Judges" and will be under the guidance of the local Chief Judge. Trainee Judges are required to register as an Associate Member of their Association. (Refer RoP A15.3). The following systems are available for Chief Judges to maintain a programme to assist judges in training to become qualified, and to maintain a programme of continued education in the judging of Marching until National status is achieved and maintained.

- Technical Drills DVD/USB/Judges SharePoint
- Judges DVD/USB Training Kit
- Workshops for Judges training

- Marking of Score Sheets in General Judging Requirements
- Judging Group Advisors
- Training Plan (as set by Director of Judging)
- Practical sessions with Teams
- “Shadow” judging at Local or Island Championships

When the Chief Judge is satisfied with the competency level the Trainee Judge has reached in understanding the basic requirements of the judging section undertaken and has been able to adequately complete a number of judging score sheets while “shadow” judging, the Chief Judge may appoint that “trainee judge” to a judging panel for a contest and arrange for the Trainee Judge to complete the Qualifying Judges Accreditation.

Qualifying Accreditation

The Qualifying Accreditation is in two parts, Written and Practical. It is important also that judges have a good understanding of being able to orally discuss the requirements of their judging section. This will be evident to the Chief Judge during the phases of training.

The written part will require six set questions to be answered.

A “reader/writer” can be used if required, but this request must be in advance, and an independent person will be appointed by the Chief Judge to undertake the “reader/writer” requirements.

The six written questions for each judging section are detailed at Annex A to this chapter.

The written part of the qualifying accreditation is open book and will be under the control of the Chief Judge, who will set a time with the Candidate as to when this will take place. Candidates will print or type their full name on the top page, also showing their judging section, and Association. Candidates will copy the questions onto the paper distinguishing them in some way from the answers. Three or four lines are to be left between the completion of each answer and the next question, so the section Group Advisor can comment appropriately. When the questions have been completed by the Candidate, the Chief Judge will arrange for two additional copies to be made, one to be held by the Candidate and one to be held by the Chief Judge, with the originals to be submitted to the section Group Advisor.

Candidates shall complete at least three judges’ sheets in two Grades (six in total) at the direction of the Chief Judge. At least two of the three required sets of sheets must be completed alongside a qualified Judge. These will accompany the written questions as completed above and along with the copy of the qualified Judges sheets and a Master Sheet of the contest(s) involved, will be forwarded to the section Group Advisor, who will be appointed each season by the Director of Judging.

Chief Judges are encouraged to complete the qualifying accreditations early in the season, so opportunity can be given to the Candidate to rectify any problems and re-submit detail if required before the end of the season.

After marking and commenting appropriately, the section Group Advisor will forward all questions/answers and practical sheets to the Director of Judging with recommendation as to progress of the Candidate. The Director of Judging will advise the Chief Judge closing the Candidates results, and the Chief Judge will advise the candidate accordingly. On passing the Qualifying Accreditation, the Judge will receive the appropriate badge, Certificate, and Judges Card which is required to be signed each season by their Chief Judge.

National Accreditation

At the beginning of each season, Chief Judges are to advise the Director of Judging and the National Judging Accreditation Co-ordinator of the names and sections of Qualified judges in their Association who are interested in completing the National Judging Accreditation that season.

Details will be advised to Chief Judges as to accreditation fees, and appropriate details, which will be followed up nearer the time to the Candidates as to preparation for the Accreditation requirements.

Judges who have reached Qualified status are eligible to proceed to National Accreditation at the discretion of the Association Chief Judge.

The National Accreditation will be conducted in three parts - written, practical and an oral interview and will be completed in one day at the Island Championship of choice. The date and location of the exam will be advised to the Chief Judge at the commencement of the season. These accreditations will be under the control of the National Judging Accreditation Co-ordinator, who will be appointed each season by the Board of Marching New Zealand.

The written part will consist of two sections comprising a multi choice section (Section A) and a series of written questions (Section B). A “reader/writer” can be used, but this must be applied for in advance and will be at the discretion and selection of the National Judging Accreditation Co-ordinator in conjunction with the Director of Judging.

The practical judging and marking of judges’ sheets will be undertaken over several teams at the Island Championships, under the control of the Judging Accreditation Co-ordinator.

The interview part will be undertaken with the Accreditation Co-ordinator on the sheets completed during the National Championship.

The weighting for each part of the Accreditation exam is as follows:

Written:	50%
Practical:	40%
Interview:	10%

The overall percentage gained by the candidate will determine which level of accreditation is achieved, as follows:

85 – 100%:	National
65 – 84%:	Regional

Below 65% will require a re-sit of the accreditation exam.

Judges must present themselves in the appropriate Judges Uniform as set out for Regional Championships.

At the completion of the National Accreditation examination, Judging Accreditor will compile a report on each candidate, with recommendations to be submitted to the Director of Judging as to the progress of the judge concerned, and the results, judges’ sheets and appropriate Certificates and Bars will be forwarded to the Chief Judges concerned for distribution as appropriate.

Refresher Exams

For Judges previously Qualified and who wish to return to judging after an absence of one or more years the following will apply to enable their previous qualification at the time of leaving the sport to be re-instated.

- Previous status – Qualified: The candidate will complete the Qualifying Exam (closed book) as detailed in the Policies and Operations Manual (Technical) Section 12, Annex A. The Association Chief Judge will arrange and supervise the written exam.

The candidate will copy the questions onto their paper, distinguishing them from the answers and leave 3 or 4 lines between each answer so the Section Group Advisor can comment appropriately. At the direction of the Association Chief Judge, three score sheets in two grades (six in total) must be completed, at least two of the three required sets of sheets will be completed alongside a Qualified or Graded Judge.

The written questions along with the completed score sheets will then be forwarded to the Section Group Advisor for marking and commenting, before returning them to the Association Chief Judge for confirmation or otherwise of the result of the examination.

- Previous status – Regional: The candidate will re-qualify by completing the appropriate section exam as detailed for the Qualified Judge in the previous bullet point, excepting that the written section (closed book) along with the score sheets will be completed at an Island Championship of their choice. The Accreditation Co-Ordinator will mark and comment on the exam appropriately before forwarding to the Director of Judging for final approval or otherwise.
- Previous status – National: The candidate will regain or otherwise their previous status by completing the National Accreditation process as stated under the heading “National Accreditation” in Section 12, of the Policies and Operations Manual (Technical).

NOTE: In exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Director of Judging and on the recommendation of the Association Chief Judge, those Judges who have previously attained a Regional or National Accreditation, may be selected to an Island or National Panel without first completing the appropriate Refresher Exam. The Judge/s concerned will submit copies of their score sheets from local competitions leading up to selection, directly to the Director of Judging for consideration of selection.

ANNEX A: QUALIFYING ACCREDITATION QUESTIONS

NOTE: In each section the candidate will provide details of the Section number and relevant page of the Policy & Operations Manual (Technical) where the answer can be found.

Display

1. Name six essential items you need to have as a Judge.
2. What is the minimum requirement for each grade for each type of formation?
3. Explain Movement to Music.
4. What is Creativity & Complexity of Content and how do you judge this?
5. How do you judge a dropped display accessory?
6. Which Display Judge judges “Time” and when does this commence and cease?

Technical Judge A

1. Name six essential items you need to have as a Judge.
2. How many Halts do the teams execute during the review (all Grades)?
3. Describe “Position of Attention”.
4. Describe in full the aspects you will judge under “Armswing”?
5. What is the minimum height of a mark time?
6. When do you commence judging and cease judging?

Technical Judge B

1. Name six essential items you need to have as a Judge.
2. In the Position of Attention, describe the Hand Position.
3. Describe in full “Posture”.
4. Describe in full the aspects you will judge under “Armswing”?
5. Explain “Handgrip”.
6. What is your seated position when judging?

Technical Judge C

1. Name six essential items you need to have as a judge.
2. When do you commence and cease judging?
3. Describe the action of a Left Turn on the March.
4. What is “Tempo”?
5. Describe in full “Leg and Foot action”, when marching.
6. What is a hesitation?

Technical Judge D

1. Name six essential items you need to have as a judge.
2. Describe "Spacing".
3. How do you judge "Dressing"?
4. When do you begin and cease judging?
5. What is the correct placement of marchers in a Team of 10 members in order to meet the compliance requirements?
6. Which members are responsible for spacing in Team formation?

Technical Judge E

1. Name six essential items you need to have as a judge
2. What is the maximum deduction for the "Quickstep"?
3. What is "tempo"?
4. Describe in full "Posture".
5. Describe in full "Leg and Foot action", when marching.
6. Describe in full the aspects you will judge under "Armswing"?

Compliance Judge

1. Name six essential items you need to have as a Judge
2. Give a description of what the Compliance Judge will judge and when do you commence and cease judging?
3. What do you mark on your sheet if the disc is not achieved?
4. How many Discs do you Judge for each of the 4 competitive grades and what colour are the discs for each Grade?
5. Name one movement as seen from the judging position in each grades Q/C/M phase where the Leader is either behind or to the side of the team when marching to the next disc?
6. When judging Dignity/Modesty/Cleanliness what are you looking for?